

diverting the vessel from the route prescribed in the Certificate, or taking other steps necessary and prudent to assist vessels in distress or to handle similar emergencies.

§ 131.930 Display of stability letter.

If the Coast Guard issues a stability letter under § 170.120 of this chapter, the letter must be readily available to the person on watch in the pilothouse of the vessel.

§ 131.935 Prevention of oil pollution.

Each vessel must be operated in compliance with—

- (a) Section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1321); and
- (b) 33 CFR parts 151, 155, and 156.

§ 131.940 Marine sanitation device.

Each vessel with installed toilet facilities must have a marine sanitation device in compliance with 33 CFR part 159.

§ 131.945 Display of plans.

Each vessel must have a permanently exhibited, for the guidance of the master and crew members, general arrangement plans showing, for each deck, the various fire-retardant bulkheads together with particulars of the—

- (a) Fire-detection systems;
- (b) Manual-alarm systems;
- (c) Fire-extinguishing systems;
- (d) Fire doors;
- (e) Means of ingress to the different compartments; and
- (f) Ventilating-systems, including the—
 - (1) Positions of the dampers;
 - (2) Site of the remote means of stopping the fans; and
 - (3) Identification of the fans serving each section.

§ 131.950 Placard on lifesaving signals and helicopter recovery.

(a) Each vessel must have readily available to the person on watch in the pilothouse a placard (Form CG-811) containing instructions—

- (1) For the use of lifesaving signals set forth in Regulation 16, Chapter V, of SOLAS 74/83; and
- (2) In helicopter recovery.

(b) The signals must be employed by vessels or persons in distress when communicating with lifesaving stations and maritime rescue units.

§ 131.955 Display of license.

Each master and licensed officer on an vessel shall conspicuously display his or her license in compliance with 46 U.S.C. 7110.

§ 131.960 Use of auto-pilot.

When the automatic pilot is used in areas of high traffic density, conditions of restricted visibility, or any other hazardous navigational situations, the master shall ensure that—

- (a) It is possible to immediately establish manual control of the vessel's steering;
- (b) A competent person is ready at all times to take over steering control; and
- (c) The changeover from automatic to manual control of the vessel's steering and the reverse is made by, or under the supervision of, the master or officer of the watch.

§ 131.965 Sounding of whistle.

No vessel may sound its whistle within any harbor limits of the United States unless it needs to.

§ 131.970 Unauthorized lighting.

No master of a vessel may authorize or permit the vessel's carrying of any lighting not required by law that will interfere in any way with any other vessel's ability to distinguish the vessel's navigation lighting.

§ 131.975 Searchlights.

No person may flash, or cause to be flashed, the rays of a searchlight or other blinding light onto the bridge or into the pilothouse of any vessel, OSV or other, under way.

§ 131.980 Lookouts and watches.

Nothing in this part exonerates any master or officer of the watch from the consequences of any neglect to keep a proper lookout or to maintain a proper fire watch, or of any neglect of any precaution that may be required by the ordinary practice of seamen, by general prudence, or by the special circumstances of the case. Each master